# BELLEVUE POLICE DEPARTMENT

# **2008 Annual Report**



Providing a safe environment through community involvement and innovation

# **CHIEF PILLO**



ef Linda Pillo

I am pleased to bring to you the Bellevue Police Department (BPD) 2008 Annual Report. This is an opportunity for you to review the work of your dedicated and professional service providers who work 24/7 to help keep our community safe while maintaining the integrity and credibility of your Police Department with the citizens of Bellevue.

We started off the year with every police supervisor attending a week long intense workshop where we honed our leadership skills and developed a new Vision, Mission and Strategic Plan. Three Initiatives were born from this workshop: Safety, Working Smarter and Relations.

Under the Initiative of Safety, we took several steps. Approximately two thirds of our officers now have tasers, a less lethal tool that helps keep both the officer and suspect safe from injury. Key employees were trained in the use of Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs). We installed AEDs in City Hall, at each Police Substation, and in some patrol vehicles. A Traffic Camera Enforcement Pilot Program was launched and will be implemented this year. Some high collision intersections and school zones will be selected for camera enforcement. We purchased a new armored vehicle with Federal grant money. The City Council approved six additional officers to address downtown growth. For the first time in many years our uniform staff is at full strength.

Under the Initiative of Working Smarter, we implemented several changes. A technology vendor for the new Northeast King County Regional Communication Center (NORCOM) was selected. We will soon implement new Computer Aided Dispatch software, Records Management System and wireless software. This new technology will help us analyze information from local and regional databases so we can identify trends to make strategic future focused decisions to deter crime. Our Traffic Unit is participating in Electronic Ticketing for traffic offenses. Electronic Ticketing lessens the time it takes to write an infraction, eases data

entry to our local system, and links directly to the state system. We received our first re-accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies which recognizes that BPD uses best practices in law enforcement.

Under the Initiative of Relations, our Police Foundation was launched in 2008. The Foundation is an independent, non-profit organization designed to support the Police Department. We formed a Diversity Focus group. It has already helped build bridges with our diverse community. We addressed staff issues through a citywide survey and made changes to help make this a better place to work. A customer attitude survey conducted in 2008 showed that overall; our service is high quality, professional and helpful.

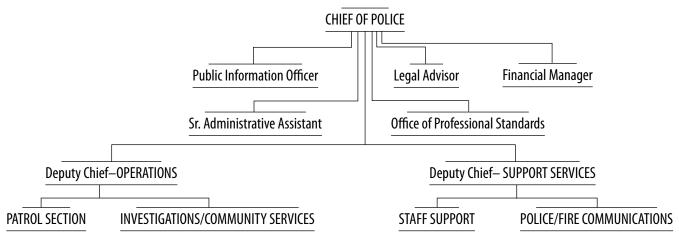
I know this list doesn't include all our accomplishments but I hope it gives you a flavor of some of our good work in 2008.

As you'll see in this report, our crime rate ticked upward in 2008 from the historic low in 2007. We are keeping a close eye on this increase and are working with the community and the data we have to identify trends and problem solve. For a city of our size, the crime rate is still extremely low indicating that Bellevue is a very safe city to live, work and visit.

In 2009, the economy will challenge us all. I am committed to providing you with the highest quality of law enforcement, community education and support services possible within the resources provided.

Ea M. (

Chief of Police



For a detailed organization chart, please visit www.bellevuewa.gov/

#### Office of the Chief of Police

The Office of the Chief of Police includes the Department Legal Advisor, Fiscal Manager, Public Information Officer, and the Office of Professional Standards. Major challenges in 2008 included adjusting the budget for the economic challenges of the third and fourth quarter, coping with an

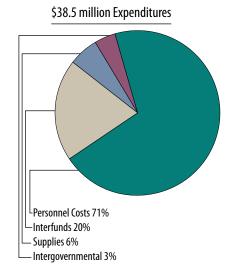
increase in public disclosure requests, and the successful reaccreditation of the Department by the Commission on Accreditation for Enforcement Agencies (CALEA). The Office of the Chief is staffed by one captain, one lieutenant, one officer, and four professional staff.

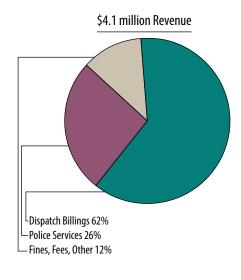
Office of Professional Standards Key Performance Measures	2007	2008
Formal Standards Investigations	11	14
Informal Standards Investigations	36	42
Dissatisfaction w/ Service	61	54
Employee preventable collisions	24	29

### Bellevue Police Department Financial Summary for 2008

The Bellevue Police Department expended \$38.5 million in the 2008 budget. \$4.1 million was generated in revenue, and \$1.9 million worth of grants were received. The grants provided communications technology equipment, narcotics

staffing, and auto theft prevention materials and training. The majority of the budget (71%) covered salaries and benefits for the 182 commissioned officers and 99 partial commission and civilian support staff.





Part One Crimes	2007	2008	% Change
Homicide	0	0	+/-0%
Rape	29	33	<b>▲</b> +13.8%
Robbery	61	71	+16.4%
Aggr. Assault	48	63	+31.2%
Total Violent Crime	138	167	+21%
Burglary	583	687	<b>+</b> +17.8%
Larceny	3,152	3,327	<b>+</b> 5.5%
MV Theft	446	274	▼ -38.6%
Arson	20	23	<b>+</b> 15%
Total Property Crime	4,201	4,311	<b>+</b> 2.6%
Total Part I Crime	4,439	4,478	+3.2%

### **2008 Deputy Chiefs**



**Operations**Deputy Chief Bill Quinn

The **Operations Division** consists of Patrol, Traffic, K-9, Courts/Custody, Special Enforcement Team, Investigations, Community Services, Eastside Narcotics Task Force, Volunteer program and the Forensic lab.



**Support Services**Deputy Chief Bruce Vestal

The **Support Services Division** consists of
Communications,
Personnel Services,
Records, and Property/
Evidence.

## **PATROL SECTION**



Major Todd Simonton

Patrol, known as the "backbone of law enforcement," includes 118 commissioned officers and 5 limited commissioned staff. Patrol and Traffic are the largest units, accompanied by Courts and Custody, Canine and the Special Enforcement Team. Officers in Patrol also train in specialties such as Explosives, Evidence Technician, Field Training Officer, Honor Guard, Hostage Negotiations, Crowd Control and Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT).

Patrol units respond to 911 calls, self-initiate enforcement activity, and maintain a high level of visibility in commercial and residential areas alike. Patrol officers and squads may also be assigned to Community –Oriented or Problem-Oriented

Policing projects, known as COP or POP projects. Squads are divided into four daily shifts, with at least one overlap shift per week. Due to a massive hiring push, over 20% of the officers in Patrol are in their first year of law enforcement.

The Traffic unit is charged with enforcing traffic laws and investigating collisions. Motorcycle officers are assigned to specific enforcement tasks, including red light violations, speed enforcement by request, and school zone protection details. Traffic investigators reconstruct collisions, conduct DUI emphasis patrols, and investigate hit-and-run reports. In 2009 Traffic anticipates the start of a pilot project for red light and school speed zone camera enforcement.

The Special Enforcement Team (SET) focuses on specific crime trends and responds in a proactive manner. Their primary responsibility is the active suppression of car related crimes in coordination with Patrol, Investigations, other agencies, and the King County Prosecutor's Office. SET is directly involved in the effort that led to an extraordinary 38.6% reduction in auto theft in Bellevue in 2008.

The Courts and Custody Unit includes a supervisor, one commissioned officer assigned as the Court Liaison Officer (CLO), and 4 Police Support Officers (PSOs). The PSOs are

responsible for transporting prisoners to court from three different contracted jails (King County, Issaquah, and Yakima) and back again. The CLO coordinates subpoenas, charging documents, and communications between officers and the courts.

K-9 is staffed by a supervisor and three handlers. Each K9 handler is assigned a full-time K9 partner, trained to track suspects by smell and locate evidence. Some K9s are also cross trained to locate illegal drugs. Working primarily at night, K9 supports patrol with the apprehension of suspects and make themselves available to other police departments as regional assets.



Patrol/Traffic Key Performance Measures	2007	2008
Part One crimes committed per 1,000 population	37	37
Customer satisfaction indicating Good or Excellent service (survey results)	83%	83%
Percentage of citizens who feel Safe or Moderately Safe (survey results)	95%	96%
Felony arrests by Patrol	637	562
Misdemeanor arrests by Patrol	2,225	1,514
Warrant arrests by Patrol	816	727
Injury collisions as % of total collisions	22%	14%
Citations issued	19,340	21,414
Collisions investigated	1,884	1,919

## **INVESTIGATIONS/COMMUNITY SERVICES**



Major Mike Pentony

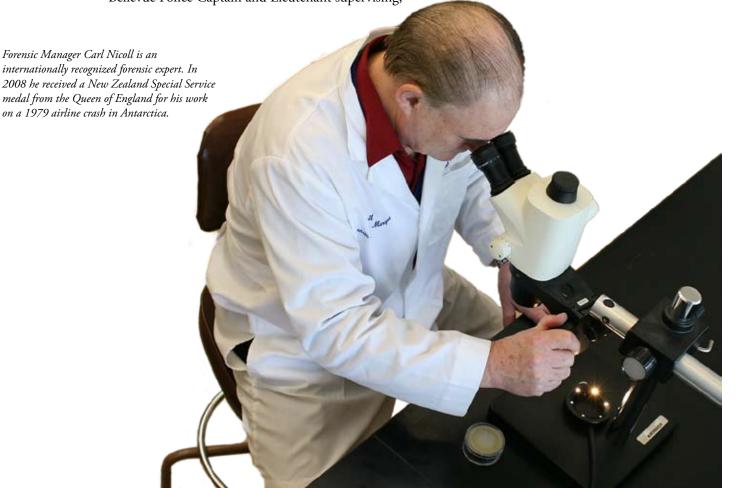
Investigations includes a staff of 51, and is responsible for the investigations of fraud crimes, computer crimes, crimes against people such as robbery, murder and assault, and crimes against property such as theft, burglary and arson. The Forensic Crime Lab, Crime Analysis Section, Crime Prevention Section, and Eastside Narcotics Taskforce are also attached to Investigations.

Community Services is comprised of School Services, Neighborhood Services, and the Volunteer Program. School Resources includes a supervisor and seven School Resource Officers (SROs) assigned to the public High Schools and Middle Schools to protect students and handle criminal activity on campus. Neighborhood Services is staffed by a supervisor, a headquarters officer, three bicycle officers assigned to proactive patrol duties, and three community substation officers detailed to community outreach and localized problem-solving.

The Eastside Narcotic Task Force consists of a Bellevue Police Captain and Lieutenant supervising, investigators from five local police agencies: Bellevue, Mercer Island, King County, Redmond and Kirkland. Support includes a dedicated King County deputy prosecutor, a financial investigator and an administrative assistant. This year the ENTF welcomes its newest member: Kuva, a narcotics search K9, and his handler.

Forensics is once again fully staffed with the addition of Forensic Technician Brian Orr. The Crime lab handles latent fingerprint examination, precursor DNA testing, marijuana testing, and oncall crime scene investigation support. The forensic manager also oversees the department photography program. An unexpected flood in the lab last fall set the forensic team back, but they are now fully operational.

The Bellevue Police volunteer program celebrated its 14th year of operation in 2008. During this year





The Eastside Narcotics Task Force added a new member this year: Kuva, a narcotics detecting K9.

our volunteers served a total of 7,800 hours: this is equivalent to an estimated \$152,600 in labor. On average the Department maintains a staff of between 50 and 60 volunteers: at the end of 2008 there were 53 volunteers working on a weekly basis. They performed a wide range of assignments throughout the Department and supported police activities at a number of special community events throughout the year. They are an integral part of daily Department operations and their contributions enable us to maintain the high level of service our residents expect.



Over the past 14 years, volunteers like Jim and Bill Swanson have contributed nearly 142,000 hours to the Police Department. During that time, the volunteer program has saved the City over \$2.7 million in labor costs.

Investigations/CSS Key Performance Measures	2007	2008
Cases with evidence processed by AFIS (Automated Fingerprint Identification System)	361	182*
AFIS hits	65	65
Persons crimes cases assigned	516	612
Persons crimes cases cleared	76%	90%
Fraud cases assigned	143	186
Fraud cases cleared	90%	80%
Property cases assigned	310	686**
Property cases cleared	34%	43%

<sup>\*</sup> The reduction in cases cleared by AFIS was due to staffing shortages in the crime lab, resulting in testing delays.

<sup>\*\*</sup> A change in case tracking procedures allowed for accounting of resolved cases that previously went uncredited.

# **POLICE/FIRE COMMUNICATIONS**

THE EASTSIDE REGIONAL COMMUNICATION
CENTER handles emergency communications
for 2 Police Departments (Bellevue and Clyde Hill),
14 Fire and Emergency Medical Service agencies,
and 650,000 citizens over 1400 square miles.
Besides taking 911 calls, Eastside Communications
dispatchers route communications between
agencies, operate the Reverse 911 system, provide
Tactical Dispatch services to SWAT & Fire, and
coordinate medevac flights into East King County
amongst other duties. Dispatch handled an average
of 478 emergency calls per day and an average of
14,585 emergency calls per month in 2008.

Major changes are coming to Dispatch in 2009. On July 1st, the Eastside Regional Communication Center will merge with communications agencies from other departments to form NORCOM, a unified regional Police and Fire communications



agency. Technology replacements and upgrades are underway, and the administration is being structured to ensure a seamless transition with no disruption in service.



Dispatchers Erin Mitchell (left) and Becky McCracken (right) display their respective 2008 awards for Exemplary Sustained Performance and Exemplary Handling of an EMS Incident.

Communications Key Performance Measures	2007	2008
Police Events	61,750	64,494
Fire Events	55,738	56,861
All Incoming calls	255,709	209,681
Cellular calls	79,163	82,924
% of 9-1-1 Calls Answered within 10 Seconds	95%	96%

STAFF SUPPORT



P.

Major Cherie Baker

To reduce the load of 911 dispatchers and therefore speed up the response time to emergency calls, the Records Section of the Bellevue Police Department takes non-emergency calls 24 hours a day.

THE STAFF MEMBERS OF THE SUPPORT SERVICES SECTION operate the Records, Property/
Evidence and Personnel Services Unit of the Police Department. The Records Unit provides the public with non-emergency information services, distributes court orders, maintains case files, runs criminal background checks for officers, and maintains the police database. Walk-in services include case copies, bail collection, and concealed pistol licensing. Records provides 24 hour non-emergency phone service as well.

Records Key Performance Measures	2007	2008
Warrants Processed		
New	2,154	2,249
Recalled by Court	767	757
Not Served/Expired	378	449
Protection Orders Served(Domestic Violence)	1,061	1,015
Computer-Aided Dispatch Entries	9,992	10,610
Records Checks	4,699	8,859
Firearms License Applications processed	520	600
Pistol Transfer Applications processed	684	839
Data Entered into Records Management System		
Arrests	4,138	4,286
Cases	13,063	12,597
Criminal Citations	2,463	2,702
Field Interview Reports	2,249	2,164
Non-Traffic Infractions	17	8
Parking Tickets	1,479	1,230
Traffic Accidents	1,985	1,948
Traffic Infractions	23,998	19,057
Trespass Notices	784	820

# **STAFF SUPPORT** continued



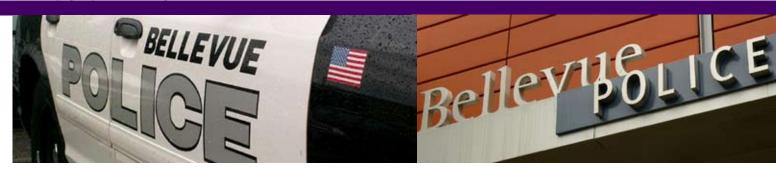
New to the Bellevue Police Department in 2008, Property Evidence Supervisor Kim Currant logs bags of contraband material.

The Property/Evidence Unit catalogues all property booked into the facility for evidence, safekeeping, or destruction. This includes everything from blood samples to firearms to narcotics. A state of the art bar code tracking system is used to identify and locate each item being held. Property/Evidence Supervisor Kim Current was hired in 2008 following the retirement of her predecessor, and Property/Evidence Technician Terri Massey moved from part time to full time.

The responsibility for recruiting, selecting, training and equipping officers and professional support staff falls to the Personnel Services Unit. PSU hired 21 new officers and 9 support staff in 2008, a recruiting record that brought the Department to full commissioned staffing for the first time in recent memory. Despite the extra work load, PSU staff coordinated 27,001 hours of training.

Personnel Services Key Performance Measures	2007	2008
Background Investigations	117	96
Commissioned staff hired	14	21
Professional staff hired	17	9
Hours of Training conducted:	25,131	27,001
Average hours of training per Officer:	142	144

### **RECOGNITION**



### **Employees recognized in 2008**

Officer of the Year

Dispatcher of the Year

Dispatcher Susan Schutz

Professional Support Staff of the Year

Dispatcher Susan Schutz

Staff Support Specialist Lisa Nomura

### Special awards given out in 2008

#### Police Medal

Officer Andrew Popochock, Officer Casey Hiam

#### Commander's Awards

Patrol: David Rivera, Officer James Keene

Investigations: Data Analyst Lynne Zirkle, Volunteer Coordinator Marji Trachtman

Dispatch: Dispatcher Paula Burns Records: Cori Deal, Lisa Nomura

#### Service Commendations (30 years on the job)

Major Cherie Baker Lieutenant Jim Hershey
Officer Molly McBride Detective Satoshi Yamamoto

#### Service Commendations (25 years on the job)

Detective Jerry Johnson

Officer John Bossler

Officer John Rhode

800mhz Technician Gregg Flint

Dispatcher Mel Larson

#### King County Emergency Medical Dispatcher of the Year Awards

Sustained Exemplary PerformanceErin MitchellExemplary Handling of an EMS IncidentBecky McCracken

2008 Police Annual Report Design and Photos: City of Bellevue Graphic Designer, Ted Van Dyken



